



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health – Women's & Children's Health Section**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor

Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

April 23, 2007

MEMORANDUM

To: Universal Childhood Vaccine Distribution Participants

From: Beth Rowe-West, RN, BSN, Head *BRW*
Immunization Branch

Re: **Minor's Consent for Human Papillomavirus Virus (HPV) Vaccine**

After discussion with Chris Hoke, General Counsel for the Division of Public Health, and Dr. Jeffrey Engel, State Epidemiologist, it has been determined that the administration of HPV vaccine meets the standard of "prevention of venereal disease" referenced in NCGS 90-21.5 (cited below). Based on this statute, minors may consent to receive the vaccine for themselves, without parental permission.

Minors who consent to services without parental permission must be assured of the privacy of their medical records. This includes immunizations. Therefore, whenever vaccines are administered under these circumstances, a hand written record of other vaccines administered must be presented whenever requested by the parent in lieu of a record printed from the North Carolina Immunization Registry (NCIR). Meanwhile, we will explore technical changes in the NCIR to allow printing of immunization records while preserving the privacy of the minor.

§ 90-21.5. Minor's consent sufficient for certain medical health services.

(a) Any minor may give effective consent to a physician licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina for medical health services for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of (i) venereal disease and other diseases reportable under G.S. 130A-135, (ii) pregnancy, (iii) abuse of controlled substances or alcohol, and (iv) emotional disturbance. This section does not authorize the inducing of an abortion, performance of a sterilization operation, or admission to a 24-hour facility licensed under Article 2 of Chapter 122C of the General Statutes except as provided in G.S. 122C-222. This section does not prohibit the admission of a minor to a treatment facility upon his own written application in an emergency situation as authorized by G.S. 122C-222.

(b) Any minor who is emancipated may consent to any medical treatment, dental and health services for himself or for his child. (1971, c. 35; 1977, c. 582, s. 2; 1983, c. 302, s. 2; 1985, c. 589, s. 31; 1985 (Reg. Sess., 1986), c. 863, s. 4.)

If you have further questions, please contact your Regional Immunization Nurse Consultant.

cc: SMT
IMT
Regional consultants
Chris Hoke
Dr. Leah Devlin
Dr. Jeff Engel

